

Affordability Committee – Frederick Health Care Coalition
Meeting Notes - November 20, 2007

Present: Pat Hanberry, Chair; Maria Shuck, Carol Antoniewicz

State and Federal legislation

- SCHIP, State Children's Health Insurance Plan: Congress has been unable to override Pres. Bush veto. Though the program expired 9/30/07, funding continues as current levels until Dec. 14. If funding is not increased, many states, including Maryland will have to cut back on enrollment. Despite our visit in August, two local rallies by MoveOn.org and faxed letters of support, Congressman Bartlett has voted against the bill.
- Maryland Special Legislative Session: Lawmakers approved the \$1 tobacco tax. It is not tied directly to health care; however, the Governor sponsored legislation, which was passed, to extend Medicaid coverage to over 100,000 low-income adults, starting January 1, 2008. Frederick delegation chair Rick Weldon spoke in favor of the bill on the House floor and was a member of the Conference Committee that finalized the legislation. **Pat H.** will send him a note of thanks from us.

Frederick County Health Needs Assessment

- An error in the data for children receiving medication for ADHD will be corrected.

Affordability Objective #5

- Pat proposed that we develop a booklet listing the many ways county residents can get [portable] free or reduced-cost health coverage. Members were volunteered to research information on the these programs:
 1. www.coverageforall.com - Pat H.
 2. MHIP – health insurance
 3. PAC, Primary Adult Care – Carol
 4. Medicaid – Carol
 5. MCHIP/children – Pat R.
 6. Breast & Cervical Program - Maria
 7. Medicare – Kathy, Ken
 8. Project Health (trained volunteers help folks get enrolled, follow up) – Carol
 9. Prescription Assistance/discount plans – refer to Coalition website

We should identify “who needs this info?” and where/how to distribute it.

Community Action Agency must develop a booklet on “where to get health care” as part of their three-year grant. Perhaps we can coordinate.

Upcoming events

There will be a full coalition meeting on Dec. 12.

Affordability Committee meeting will be Dec. 18, 4 – 6 pm at FMH.